AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented) A plasmid DNA comprising in a 5' to 3' direction, a Gal4 responsive element, a promoter and a polynucleotide encoding a transmembrane region and an apoptosis-inducing domain of a Fas antigen.

2. (Previously presented) The plasmid DNA according to claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a transmembrane region and an apoptosis-inducing domain of a Fas antigen represented by amino acids 136 to 305 of mouse Fas antigen (SEQ ID NO:23) or amino acids 145 to 319 of human Fas antigen (SEQ ID NO:22).

3. (Previously presented) The plasmid DNA according to claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide encoding a transmembrane region and an apoptosis-inducing domain of a Fas antigen further encodes a signal peptide region of a Fas antigen in frame with the transmembrane region and the apoptosis-inducing domain of the Fas antigen, and wherein the transmembrane region and the apoptosis-inducing domain are represented by amino acids 136 to 305 of mouse Fas antigen (SEQ ID NO:23) or amino acids 145 to 319 of human Fas antigen (SEQ ID NO:22).

4. (Previously presented) The plasmid DNA according to claim 3, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a Fas antigen signal peptide region represented by amino acids -21 to 14

of mouse Fas antigen (SEQ ID NO:23) or amino acids -16 to 23 of human Fas antigen (SEQ ID NO:22).

5.-19. (Canceled).

20. (Currently amended) A composition comprising (a) the plasmid DNA of any one of claims 1 to 4, and (b) a plasmid DNA ~~molecule~~ encoding a fusion protein comprising in a 5' to 3' direction a Gal4 DNA binding region and a nuclear receptor ligand binding region~~an effector protein~~.

21.-23. (Canceled).

24. (New) The composition according to claim 20, wherein said nuclear receptor ligand binding region is a member selected from the group consisting of amino acids 281 to 595 of human estrogen receptor, amino acids 286 to 600 of rat estrogen receptor, amino acids 176 to 462 of human retinoic acid receptor α, amino acids 177 to 458 of mouse retinoic acid receptor α, amino acids 166 to 478 of human PPAR γ1 subtype receptor, amino acids 194 to 506 of human PPAR γ2 subtype receptor, amino acids 164 to 475 of mouse PPAR γ1 subtype receptor, amino acids 194 to 505 of mouse PPAR γ2 subtype receptor, amino acids 157 to 468 of human PPAR α receptor, amino acids 157 to 468 of rat PPAR α receptor, amino acids 129 to 441 of human PPAR δ receptor, and amino acids 128 to 440 of mouse PPAR δ receptor.